

CASE DM6907A

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Keith R. Lange
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Signature

July 28, 2004
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

MILLER et al.

APPLICATION NO: 09/975,813

FILED: September 12, 2001

FOR: ASSAYS AND PEPTIDE SUBSTRATE FOR DETERMINING
AGGRECAN DEGRADING METALLO PROTEASE ACTIVITY

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

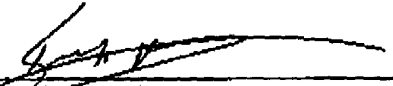
This is in response to the Office Action dated June 30, 2004, a response to which is due July 30, 2004 with a shortened statutory period for reply. Accordingly, this Response is deemed to be timely filed.

Restriction Requirement

Applicant's provisionally elect, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-25, 31, and 32, drawn to a peptide, classified in class 530, subclass 300.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 28, 2004